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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/382,524 08/25/99 FARRAR

P 303.610US1

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MMC1/0716

EXAMINER

ABRAHAM, F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2826

DATE MAILED:

07/16/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

Applicant(s)

09/382 524

Farrar

Examiner

Art Unit

Fetsum Abraham

2826

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

FETSUM ABRAHAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 9
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

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Claims rejection

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9,11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wojnarowsky (5,449,427).

The document discloses a substrate (112), a foamed polymeric insulation layer (116) on the substrate, and conductive metal on the hydrophobic insulator (see abstract and column 6, 5-10). Although the prior art is silent about the specific polymeric material, it does not exclude any polymer material. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the claimed material in the patent since it is a known polymer within the general category of applicable materials taught by the patent.

As for claims 2,3 layer thickness is variable in the art without patentable weight.

As for claims 6,11,12, the structure is applicable for any cell size in any IC.

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As for claims 16,17, Al and Cu are known conductors in Ics.

As for claim 18, any IC structure including a memory or a computer element can use the structure in the patent since it is applicable to any Ics.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Refer to 5,785,787.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wojnarowsky in view of Matsuura et al (5,798,200) .

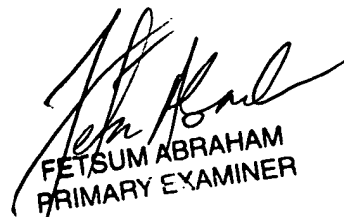
Wojnarowsky omits to teach the inclusion of silane in the structure, however, Matsuura et al clearly teach polymers treated with silane in column 6, 40-45. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the material in polymers in order to maximize their hydropotent characteristics.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Fetsum Abraham at telephone number (703) 305,3793, or by E-mail at [fetsum.abraham@uspto.gov](mailto:fetsum.abraham@uspto.gov).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the *SPE of AU*:2826 at (703)308-6601, or the *Group receptionist* at (703) 308-0956.

Fetsum Abraham

7/10/01

  
FETSUM ABRAHAM  
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